

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub
A1
1. A method of reporting an end of a scanning session to a user, comprising the steps of:

selecting a peripheral device for reporting the end of a scanning session to the user; and

notifying the user through the selected peripheral device after a series of scanning tasks has ended.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device includes a sound card capable of emitting sound.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device includes a loudspeaker installed inside a computer.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device includes a network card capable of transmitting electronic mail to a mailbox of the user.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device includes a digital data recorder capable of dialing a telephone number.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device includes a digital data recorder capable of dialing a pager number.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device includes a digital data recorder capable of dialing a mobile telephone number.

Sub
A2
8. A method of reporting an end of a scanning session to a user, comprising the steps of:

using a computer to detect how many peripheral devices are available for reporting the end of a scanning session to the user;

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A2

selecting at least a peripheral device to report the end of a scanning session to
the used;

performing all scanning tasks in a scanning session;

notifying the user, through the selected peripheral device, that a series of

5 scanning tasks has ended; and

determining if a scanning operation is waiting, wherein if a scanning operation is
waiting, the method jumps to the step of selecting the peripheral device, and if no
scanning operation is waiting, the scanning operation is terminated.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the peripheral device includes a sound card
10 capable of emitting sound.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the peripheral device includes a loudspeaker
installed inside a computer.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein the peripheral device includes a network
card capable of transmitting electronic mail to a mailbox of a user.

15 12. The method of claim 8, wherein the peripheral device includes a digital data
recorder capable of dialing a telephone number.

13. The method of claim 8, wherein the peripheral device includes a digital data
recorder capable of dialing a pager number.

20 14. The method of claim 8, wherein the peripheral device includes a digital data
recorder capable of dialing a mobile telephone number.